

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate ~~(1) comprising~~ including barrier and planarisation materials for use with a device layer, characterized in that said barrier laminate (1) contains comprising:
a device layer; and
at least one discontinuous layer ~~(4)~~ of a planarisation material external to the device layer within a stack including the device layer, which wherein the at least one discontinuous layer is divided into unconnected areas ~~(5)~~ distributed along ~~the a~~ plane,
wherein the unconnected areas are separated by regions of a barrier material, and
wherein the barrier material separating the unconnected areas is external to the device layer.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate ~~(1)~~ according to claim 1, wherein said planarisation material is an organic material.
4. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate ~~(1)~~ according to claim 1, wherein said planarisation material is a combination of organic and inorganic materials.
5. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate ~~(1)~~ according to claim 1, wherein said barrier material is an inorganic material.
6. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate ~~(1)~~ according to claim 2, wherein said regions ~~(6)~~ of a barrier material forms a checked pattern.

7. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, further comprising at least one continuous layer (3) of a barrier material.
8. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein said discontinuous layer (4) is arranged between two continuous layers (3) of a barrier material.
9. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, further comprising at least one continuous layer (2) of a planarisation material.
10. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein said planarisation material is a polymeric material.
11. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein said planarisation material is selected from the group consisting of parylene, acrylates, epoxides, urethanes, spin-on dielectrics, and siloxanes.
12. (Currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein said barrier material is selected from the group consisting of are SiO₂, SiC, Si₃N₄, TiO₂, HfO₂, Y₂O₃, Ta₂O₅, and Al₂O₃.
13. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a~~ A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein the barrier laminate is as-an oxygen and/or water impermeable film.
14. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a discontinuous layer (4) in a barrier laminate (1) for use with a device layer comprising:
- depositing a continuous layer of a planarisation material;₁
 - removing regions of said layer of a planarisation material;₁ and
 - filling said regions with a barrier material to form a barrier laminate layer external to the device layer within a stack including the device layer such that the barrier material filling said regions is external to the device layer.

15. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a discontinuous layer (4) in a barrier laminate (1) for use with a device layer comprising:

- depositing a patterned layer of a planarisation material, whereby regions where no planarisation material is deposited are formed; and
- filling said regions with a barrier material to form a barrier laminate layer external to the device layer within a stack including the device layer such that the barrier material filling said regions is external to the device layer.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein said filling of said regions with a barrier material is performed simultaneously as the deposition of a continuous layer of a barrier material on said discontinuous layer.

17. (Currently amended) ~~An electronic device, or more particular electroluminescent device, having active layers and a~~ A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein the at least one discontinuous layer is positioned over the active layers of an electronic device, the laminate having a discontinuous layer (4) which and is, among the layers of the laminate containing including planarisation material, the one closest to the active layers of said electroluminescent electronic device.